DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOCAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR A WATER QUALITY STUDY (TMDL) AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR LONG MEADOW RUN AND TURLEY CREEK

COMMITTEE MEETING: A Local Steering Committee meeting which is open to the public will be held Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 1pm at the Massanutten Regional Library's Downtown Branch at 174 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. This meeting will be open to the public and all are welcome. In the case of inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until Friday, August 14, 2015 at 1pm. For more information, please contact Tara Sieber at Tara.Sieber@deq.virginia.gov or 540.574.7870.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and its contractors, Virginia Tech's Biological Systems Engineering Department, will discuss population data for the development of a water quality study known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and a watershed improvement plan (or Implementation Plan) for Long Meadow Run and Turley Creek. This is an opportunity for local residents to share information about the area and its local streams and give feedback as to the best way to help these streams return to a healthy condition.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: The Local Steering Committee will meet to discuss the draft Implementation Plan document, discuss current cost-share and Best Management Practices installation in the watershed, and review next steps. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: These streams do not host a healthy and diverse population of aquatic life, and subsequently was listed as impaired for the "General Benthic (Aquatic life)" water quality standard. This water quality study (TMDL) will review all data collected and determine the cause of the benthic impairment through a weight of evidence approach. Reductions and a TMDL for the cause of the impairment will be developed.

Stream	County	Impairment
Long Meadow	Rockingham County	Aquatic Life
Run		
Turley Creek	Rockingham County	Aquatic Life

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: The meetings of the Local Steering Committee are open to the public and all interested parties are welcome. Written comments are always accepted. For more information or to submit written comments, please contact:

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